



Department of Public Health (DPH)

Community Vital Signs Keeps County's Wellness in the Spotlight

Supriya Barrows, Project Manager for Community Vital Signs

Community Vital Signs (CVS) is back in the spotlight. The community health improvement initiative advancing the wellness element of the Countywide Vision was featured by the [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#) and [American Public Health Association](#).

The feature in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's *County Health Rankings and Roadmaps* placed a spotlight on the "Summer of Engagement" which brought together 1,000 community stakeholders during 23 meetings to discuss, comment, and prioritize 34 indicators affecting the community. The American Public Health Association brought national attention to County collaboration efforts by introducing the idea that all sectors are interrelated and must work in concert for collective action.

Community Vital Signs is also one of 12 community teams chosen nationwide to participate in the Roadmaps to Health Coaching Program. The free service, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, partnered Community Vital Signs with a community coach from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute to provide guidance and tools focused on community health improvement goals. Participating community teams can expect to build their capacity to work together, choose and implement effective policies and programs that impact and evaluate health improvement efforts.

During the 2014 Annual City/County Conference, Community Vital Signs facilitated an interactive session for local government leaders that generated ideas for promoting wellness and economic development in communities. These collective ideas were graphically illustrated and encapsulated in a [mural](#).

Over the next several months, Harder+Company Community Research, a contracted consultant, will facilitate the design and implementation of the Community Health Improvement Plan for the initiative. This next phase will build upon last summer's dialogue with stakeholders from all sectors of the County that identified education, economy, access to health care, mental health, nutrition/access to healthy food, community safety, and safety at school as the most-pressing issues affecting community's health. It will also advance the Department of Public Health's efforts toward achieving national accreditation by ensuring the project activities and deliverables conform to the National Public Health Accreditation Board standards.

"This is an incredible opportunity for San Bernardino County," said Trudy Raymundo, Director of the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health. "I look forward to working with our incredible partners as we move one step closer to achieving our goals for improving the health of our County's communities and residents."

Copies of the "San Bernardino County: Our Community Vital Signs 2013 Final Report" are available at all County Library branches and online at: www.communityvitalsigns.org.

County of San Bernardino
Human Services



HS Connection Newsletter